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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/867,918	05/29/2001	Christopher E. Pearce	062891.0608	7544
5073	7590	01/29/2008		
BAKER BOTTS L.L.P. 2001 ROSS AVENUE SUITE 600 DALLAS, TX 75201-2980			EXAMINER ADDY, THJUAN KNOWLIN	
			ART UNIT 2614	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 01/29/2008	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/867,918

Applicant(s)

PEARCE, CHRISTOPHER E.

Examiner

Thjuan K. Addy

Art Unit

2614

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 September 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 and 13-18 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 7-12, 19 and 20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 03 December 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment filed on September 26, 2007 has been entered. No claims have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. No claims have been added. Claims 1-20 are still pending in this application, with claims 1, 7, 13, 19, and 20 being independent.
2. Applicant's request for reconsideration of the finality of the rejection of the last Office action is persuasive and, therefore, the finality of that action is withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1-6 and 13-18 are allowed.
4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The invention as claimed is not disclosed nor rendered obvious in view of the prior art of record. As to independent claims 1 and 13, the prior art of record fails to teach or suggest, alone or in combination, the recited method and logic of accessing the dial plan data responsive to identifying the expansion indicator, and **while accessing** the dial plan data, **for each** of the route pattern definitions in the dial plan data, **generating a route pattern** based on the one or more sub-strings for the route pattern definition, and **entering the generated route pattern** into a live dial database for use in routing calls placed by users. No prior art was found that discloses or teaches the limitations of claims 1 and 13.

5. Claims 2-6 and 14-18 are dependent upon claims 1 and 13, respectively, therefore, claims 2-6 and 14-18 are allowed.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

7. Claims 7-12, 19, and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hinchey et al. (US Patent Application, Pub. No.: 2002/0122547 A1):

8. In regards to claims 7 and 20, Hinchey discloses a telephony call management apparatus (See Fig. 9 and computer system 900) comprising: a memory (See Fig. 9, operating memory 912, and storage memory 916) storing a call management application (See pg. 8, paragraph [0085] – [0087]), a live dial database, configured routing data comprising at least one configured route pattern that includes an expansion indicator, and dial plan data comprising a plurality of route pattern definitions, each

route pattern definition comprising one or more sub-strings each having an associated tag (See pg. 3-4, paragraph [0044] – [0045] and pg. 4, paragraph [0047]); and a processor (See Fig. 9 and processor 908) operable, when executing the call management application (See pg. 8, paragraph [0085] and pg. 8, paragraph [0088]), to access each route pattern in the configured routing data, to identify the expansion indicator, and, responsive to identifying the expansion indicator, to access the dial plan data and, for each of the route pattern definitions in the dial plan data, to generate a route pattern based on the route pattern definition and to enter the generated route pattern into the live dial database (See pg. 3, paragraph [0036]; pg. 5, paragraph [0055]; and pg. 6, paragraph [0060] – [0061]).

9. In regards to claim 8, Hinchey discloses the apparatus, wherein: the dial plan data implements North American Numbering Plan (See pg. 3, paragraph 0043]; and the live dial database specifies routing of telephone calls from managed voice over Internet protocol (VoIP) devices (See pg. 1, paragraph [0005] and pg. 2-3, paragraph [0034]).

10. In regards to claim 9, Hinchey discloses the apparatus, wherein the dial plan data further comprise a text file listing each of the route pattern definitions (See pg. 6, paragraph [0061] and pg. 7-8, paragraph [0078]).

11. In regards to claims 10 and 11, Hinchey discloses the apparatus, wherein: the configured routing data further comprise a route filter (See Fig. 3 and routing policies 320); and the processor is further operable, for each of the route pattern definitions in the dial plan data, to generate the route pattern and to enter the generated route pattern

into the live dial database if the route pattern definition satisfies the route filter (See pg. 6, paragraph [0060] – [0061]).

12. In regards to claim 12 Hinchey discloses the apparatus, wherein the configured routing data further comprise digit discard instructions, the digit instruction specifying digits to retain when routing calls placed by users, the digits specified using the associated tags (See pg. 5-6, paragraph [0058] and pg. 6, paragraph [0064]).

13. In regards to claim 19, Hinchey discloses a telephony call management apparatus (See Abstract and pg. 1, paragraph [0008]) comprising: means for maintaining dial plan data comprising a plurality of route pattern definitions, each route pattern definition comprising one or more sub-strings each having an associated tag (See pg. 3-4, paragraph [0044] – [0045] and pg. 4, paragraph [0047]); means for maintaining configured routing data comprising a configured route pattern including an expansion indicator (e.g., transformation rules) (See pg. 5, paragraph [0054] and pg. 5-6, paragraph [0058]); means for accessing the configured routing data to read the configured route pattern; means for identifying the expansion indicator in the configured route pattern; means for accessing the dial plan data responsive to identifying the expansion indicator (See pg. 5-6, paragraph [0058]) and, for each of the route pattern definitions in the dial plan data: generating a route pattern based on the route pattern definition; and entering the generated route pattern into a live dial database (See Fig. 1, route database/route server 114 and Fig. 3, route database 326) for use in routing calls placed by users (See pg. 3, paragraph [0036]; pg. 5, paragraph [0055]; and pg. 6, paragraph [0060] – [0061]).

Response to Arguments

14. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thjuan K. Addy whose telephone number is (571) 272-7486. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00pm.

16. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ahmad Matar can be reached on (571) 272-7488. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

17. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Thjuan K. Addy". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal flourish extending from the bottom of the name.

Thjuan K. Addy
Patent Examiner
AU 2614